

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 107428 TOSEC 040184
ORIGIN SS-25

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APPROVED BY THE ACTING SECRETARY

S/S - MR. SEBASTIAN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 107428 TOSEC 040184

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SF

SUBJECT: SOUTH AFRICAN NOTE DELIVERED TODAY, MAY 11

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF SOUTH AFRICAN NOTE.

BEGIN TEXT: THE SOUTH AFRICAN CHARGE D'AFFAIRES, A.I.,
PRESENTS HIS COMPLIMENTS TO THE ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE
AND AT THE REQUEST OF HIS GOVERNMENT HAS THE HONOUR TO
CONVEY THE FOLLOWING:

(1) THE REACTIONS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT IN
REGARD TO AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S PROPOSED VISIT TO THE REPUBLIC
WERE CONVEYED TO MESSRS. SEELYE AND EDMONDSON ON THE
AFTERNOON OF THE 9TH MAY BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN CHARGE'
D'AFFAIRES. SUBSEQUENTLY, ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE
CHRISTOPHER PHONED MR. R.F. BOTHA, SOUTH AFRICAN MINISTER
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OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, AND STATED INTER ALIA THAT THE UNITED
STATES AUTHORITIES WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF THE SOUTH AFRICAN
GOVERNMENT COULD RECONSIDER THE MATTER AND ALLOW THE VISIT
TO TAKE PLACE ON OR ABOUT 22 MAY. IT WAS ADDED THAT
AMBASSADOR YOUNG WOULD NOT PLAY ANY PARTISAN ROLE OR ENGAGE
IN POLEMICS WHILE IN SOUTH AFRICA. THE PRINCIPAL PURPOSE
OF HIS VISIT "AS WE NOW SEE IT" WOULD BE TO MEET WITH

SOUTH AFRICAN BUSINESSMEN. BESIDES THIS, ONLY A FEW OTHER PEOPLE WOULD MEET WITH HIM AT THE UNITED STATES EMBASSY. IT WAS FURTHER ADDED THAT THE VISITS REFERRED TO IN THE SOUTH AFRICAN AIDE MEMOIRE WERE NOT CONTEMPLATED.

(2) IN THE DISCUSSION WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN CHARGE' D' AFFAIRES ON THE 9TH MAY, IT WAS INDICATED THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR A CLEARER DEFINITION OF THE WORD "OPPORTUNE" IN REFERENCE TO THE CONCLUDING PARAGRAPH OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN AIDE MEMOIRE, IN WHICH IT WAS STATED THAT "A VISIT TO SOUTH AFRICA BY AMBASSADOR YOUNG BE POSTPONED TO A MORE OPPORTUNE TIME".

(3) IT WAS ADDED THAT MR. YOUNG WAS ON A VISIT TO AFRICA OF SOME TEN DAYS AND "IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO RESCHEDULE A VISIT TO SOUTH AFRICA LATER IN THE WEEK".

(4) THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT WAS NEVER OPPOSED IN PRINCIPLE TO MR. YOUNG COMING TO THE REPUBLIC, BUT THE EVENTS SET OUT IN ITS REPLY OF 9 MAY INDICATED WHY THE VISIT WAS CONSIDERED INOPPORTUNE. BEARING IN MIND THE PENDING TALKS BETWEEN VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE AND THE PRIME MINISTER, AS WELL AS THE DISCUSSIONS NOW GOING ON IN REGARD TO SOUTH WEST AFRICA AND RHODESIA, THE APPEAL CONVEYED BY ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE CHRISTOPHER, AND THE PATTERN IN WHICH THE VISIT IS NOW SEEN (VIDE PARAGRAPH 1 ABOVE), THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT WILL RAISE NO OBJECTION TO MR. YOUNG COMING TO THE REPUBLIC DURING THE WEEK

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ENDING 27TH MAY 1977.

THE CHARGE' D'AFFAIRES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA AVAILS HIMSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO THE ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE THE ASSURANCES OF HIS HIGHEST CONSIDERATION. END TEXT. CHRISTOPHER

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APPROVED BY: MR TARNOFF

S/S:SESTEINER

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O 130300Z MAY 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 107428

EXDIS, ABIDJAN FOR AMB YOUNG

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION USDEL SECRETARY FROM STATE MAY 11:

QUOTE S E C R E T STATE 107428 TOSEC 040184

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

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OF HIS VISIT "AS WE NOW SEE IT" WOULD BE TO MEET WITH

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THE CHARGE' D'AFFAIRES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA AVAILS HIMSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO THE ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE THE ASSURANCES OF HIS HIGHEST CONSIDERATION. END TEXT. CHRISTOPHER UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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